

# Joint Government and Industry Pipeline R&D Forum

## Overview of the OPS R&D Program

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# Hallmarks of the OPS R&D Program

- Mission focused: near-term delivery of effective and efficient solutions to preventing, identifying, and mitigating pipeline integrity threats
- Actively engaged with public and private stakeholders to better understand the full range of pipeline safety R&D needs and gaps
- Systematically using expert-based peer review in all R&D procurement decisions



# Hallmarks of the OPS R&D Program

- Collaborating with public and private funding organizations to avoid duplication
- Leveraging project funding (50/50) on all recent R&D procurements
- Enhancing accessibility of results to users to support ease of deployment and application, as well as to advance common understanding of the state of the art
- Broad use of OPS personnel



# R&D Program To-Date

- November '01 workshop set our course
- Obtained needed financial support
- Issued 3 Broad Agency Announcements
  - ◆ Awarded 22 new project contracts
  - ◆ Awarded 3 new SBIR project contracts
- Focus of BAA's
  - ◆ Damage Prevention / Leak Detection
  - ◆ Enhanced Operations, Control, and Monitoring
  - ◆ Improved Materials



# R&D Program To-Date

- OPS actively participated in most R&D procurements of related Federal agencies
- Related Federal agencies actively participated in OPS R&D procurements
- Using technology / threat focused workshops (e.g., DA and SCC) and standards development involvement to highlight specific R&D needs and gaps
- Major GAO audit largely favorable



# R&D Going Forward

- Formalize performance metrics to systematically evaluate the effectiveness of OPS R&D investment
- Improve administrative efficiency and speed of competitive procurement cycle
- Synchronize procurement and priority planning cycles of major partners and stakeholders to increase predictability
- Continue to refine focus and target needs and seek out gaps



# Additional Information

- R&D Website: <http://primis.rspa.dot.gov/rd>
  - ◆ Contains all
    - ◆ past and present OPS R&D projects
    - ◆ solicitations and announcements
    - ◆ meetings, presentations, etc.
  - ◆ Broadly searchable –e.g., by project name or R&D category



# Additional Information

- Contacts (202.366.4595):
  - ◆ Jeff Wiese
    - ◆ R&D strategic management and overall program direction
  - ◆ Jim Merritt
    - ◆ R&D contract / project questions
  - ◆ Bob Smith
    - ◆ R&D planning, outreach, coordination

